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Worldwide Report

LAW OF THE SEA

No. 209

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

VIETNAM-USSR FISHING COOPERATION--Since early this year, the Haiphong branch of the Central Marine Products Corporation has received 1,600 tons of sea fish from various Soviet trawlers under a program of cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. This volume of fish exceeds the plan set for 1982 by more than 100 percent. [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 21 Aug 82 BK]

CSO: 5200/2114

UNITED STATES ERRED IN REFUSING TO SIGN CONVENTION

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 16 Jul 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] The American government will not profit from its refusal to sign the Law of the Sea convention. The United States must broaden its thinking in connection with the international Law of the Sea. Jusuf Wanandi of the Center for Strategic and International Studies expressed this opinion to KOMPAS, regarding the American refusal to sign the Law of the Sea agreement.

Before traveling to Nicosia, Cyprus to attend a meeting of nonaligned foreign ministers, Foreign Minister Kusumaatmadja said he will express his disappointment to President Reagan, who refused to sign the convention. The Foreign Minister finds it difficult to understand the reasons behind the American refusal to sign the Law of the Sea convention, which is the product of years of study.

According to Jusuf Wanandi, the convention is actually in keeping with American interests as a superpower. The convention gives the United States freedom in strategic military matters in international waters, subject to certain conditions.

"The United States erred in refusing to sign the Law of the Sea convention," said Jusuf Wanandi. "Does the United States feel more secure in traversing the waters of other nations without subscribing to the Law of the Sea?", Jusuf asked. He answered his own question, "I suppose, of course, the United States, as a great power, can enforce its wishes to carry out undersea exploration and exploitation. But this will upset other nations. This means the United States will not feel secure in carrying out such efforts."

"Although the United States plans to sign a mini-agreement with its allies, will this guarantee that American industrialists will dare to carry out undersea efforts? Definitely not! Those industrialists will be concerned about security in the progress of other operations," Jusuf Wanandi continued.

Actually, the United States is influenced by private enterprise, and by Ronald Reagan's "free market ideology." They fear subscribing to the agreement will limit exploration by American enterprises. However, if the United States signs the agreement, it will actually guarantee the security of her undersea mining efforts.

Japan and France, two technologically advanced nations who agree with the Law of the Sea, will profit by replacing the American position. Japan and France will carry out exploitation. If that happens, American enterprises will have to share with the enterprises of those two nations. The Law of the Sea is really in keeping with American national interests, particularly with regard to the strategic military aspect, and it will not curtail the American role in exploitation.

The American delegation to the Law of the Sea conference last March in New York made a proposal. This was the means to completely disrupt the draft convention which was the product of the labors of the majority of the nations of the world. The Group of 77 carefully studied the proposal. All sides want the convention to be signed in September. And, according to plan, the treaty will be ratified in Caracas, Venezuela at the end of the year.

The United States stressed the question of mining in international waters. Third world nations wanted such mining to be managed by a body under UN authority, with all humanity sharing in the benefits. The United States did not agree.

Indonesia is stubbornly fighting for the international Law of the Sea. Our "Archipelago Concept" is no longer a problem in the draft convention. But Indonesia will be very pleased when the United States, as a great power, joins it. Of course, Indonesia is an interested party in regard to the Archipelago Concept. With this concept, our exclusive economic zone and our vital waters will receive international recognition.

9197
CSO: 5200/8213

GOVERNMENT ALLOCATIONS OF DEEPWATER FISHING RIGHTS BARED

Management Controls

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 30 Jul 82 p 3

[Text] Government allocations of fishing rights to New Zealand's deep-water fishery resource should be the subject of some hard talking within the industry over the next few weeks.

Although most of the country's major fishing company leaders declined to comment in detail on the allocations last night, some privately expressed disappointment.

The document containing the announcement of the allocations proposes administrative allocation of fishing rights to the country's deep-water fishery resources.

Nine Firms

Under the Government's plan, nine major New Zealand companies will be given specific catch allocations and a further allocation will be made to cover owner-operator fishermen on a competitive basis.

The allocations to the nine big companies were decided on the basis of historical performance and investment in the industry.

It was understood last night that the nine companies' allocation amounted to 112,000 tonnes while the

owner-operators had been allocated 17,000 tonnes of seven species of deep-water fish resource.

The percentages of the tonnage allocated to the major companies are: Sealord Products Ltd, Nelson, 21.6 per cent; Fletcher Fishing Ltd, Auckland, 17.5 per cent; Sanford Ltd, Auckland, 16.9 per cent; Feron Seafoods Ltd, Timaru, 6.4 per cent; Skeggs Foods Ltd, Dunedin, 5.6 per cent; Wanganui Trawlers Ltd, 5.3 per cent; Amaltal, 4.8 per cent; Jaybel Nichimo Ltd, Auckland, 4.8 per cent; Watties, 3.9 per cent.

Big Vessels

The proposals state the fishing rights would be allocated for 10 years to give successful applicants assured access over a period long enough to enable them to plan their investment and effort in reasonable confidence.

Dealing with fishing management controls, the document says it is essential that large vessels should not be permitted to fish inshore waters.

It is proposed that all vessels of 40 metres overall

length or more be excluded from the 12 nautical miles of territorial sea and other areas closed to foreign trawling.

The total allowable catch aggregate, including squid, is about 350,000 tonnes. In 1981 the deep-water fleet caught about 164,000 tonnes.

Meanwhile, a fisheries management area to protect young fish stocks in the Bay of Plenty was declared by the Minister of Fisheries, Mr MacIntyre, yesterday.

The major regulation changes were designed to control overfishing of juvenile fish stocks, he said.

Three nursery areas have been created in which all Danish seining and trawling are prohibited from January 1 to April 30 next year.

The management area extends from the Needles at Great Barrier Island to East Cape. The nursery areas are at Kennedy Bay and between Haurere Pt and Te Kaha Pt, and also at Waikawa Pt and Orete Pt.

At Pegasus Bay the nursery area has been extended from Kairaki north of the Waimakariri River to the east head of Okains Bay.

Herald Reporter and Press Association

Other Regulations

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 29 Jul 82 p 4

[Text]

The Government has decided to make it illegal for fishing craft to carry under-sized-mesh nets.

The decision is the effect of one of several amendments to the Fisheries (General) Regulations, 1950, gazetted today.

Announcing these, the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr MacIntyre, said that previously it was illegal to use under-sized mesh, but there were no restrictions on carrying it.

"This should make the regulations easier to enforce," he said.

The possession of under-sized scallops has also been made illegal by way of a new regulation.

However, details of the penalties for both new offences were not available by press time.

The regulations also set new quota limits for hake, silver warehou, and orange roughy.

New regulations, the minister said, had been added on the taking of hoki, oreo dory and ling, giving effect to special limits set by the cabinet economic committee in March.

Quota details were also unavailable.

"The regulations also require domestic vessels catching species under quota restriction outside the 12-mile territorial sea to report to the director-general (of agriculture and fisheries) in the same way as joint-venture and foreign-licensed vessels," he said.

Vessel position and species catch records were needed if the fishery was to be properly managed.

Company Complaints

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 31 Jul 82 p 1

[Text]

Fletcher Fishing Ltd says it may be forced to sell two trawlers imported to New Zealand this year if Government deep-water fishing allocations are implemented.

The allocations, contained in a discussion paper issued by the Minister of Fisheries, Mr MacIntyre, this week, gave Fletcher Fishing 17.5 per cent of a total of 112,000 tonnes of the deep-water resource.

Yesterday, the managing director of Fletcher Fishing, Mr Eric Henry, was dismayed by the proposal.

It effectively meant that Fletcher's allocation had been cut, he said.

"The implementation of the proposals in their present form could force Fletcher Fishing to sell its two deep-water freezer-trawlers, Otago Buccaneer and Otago Galliard, as there would be insufficient prime species for

the trawlers to fish economically," Mr Henry said.

"The new proposals could result in the liquidation of a multi-million-dollar investment in vessels, a rundown of the base and processing facilities at Dunedin, the loss of many jobs and the trust of a major effort to develop a resource which until recently was unexploited by New Zealanders.

"In the last two years Fletcher Fishing has invested over \$30 million in deep-water vessels and processing and cold storage facilities in Dunedin."

Mr Henry said Fletchers had caught, processed and marketed far more prime deep-water species than it had been allocated in the discussion paper.

Another company, Sealord Products Ltd, was also unhappy with the proposals despite having received the largest allocation of 21.6 per cent of the resources.

The chairman of Sealord, Mr Richard Carter, said: "There will be a battle on over the next few weeks because they have put too many people into too little a resource."

Like Fletchers, Sealord's allocation was more than the new proposals offered.

The Federation of Commercial Fishermen also reacted strongly to the proposals yesterday.

"It is noticeable that the federation's name is not among those who are likely to receive allocations of a fish resource which represents one of the few opportunities for growth," said the secretary of the federation, Mr Howard Stone.

This was difficult to understand, he said because the federation represented members who collectively had between \$30 and \$40 million invested in the fishing industry.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

REPORTS ON NPC STANDING COMMITTEE SESSION

Marine Protection Law Explained

OW191600 Beijing XINHUA in English 1545 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Beijing, August 19 (XINHUA)--Li Ximing, minister of urban and rural construction and environmental protection, today explained the new draft law on marine environmental protection to the 24th Session of the Fifth National People's Congress Standing Committee, which opened this afternoon.

The emphasis of the law, submitted to the committee today, is on pollution prevention and protection of the marine environment, the minister said. Separate laws are being formulated to cover protection of mineral and aquatic resources.

China has 18,000 kilometers of coastline, he said, and with development of shipping, offshore oil, seaside construction and the dumping of land-based industrial pollutants, it has become pressing to safeguard the marine environment.

The new law, whose violators will be held responsible both administratively and criminally and required to pay compensation, will apply to all units and individuals within the People's Republic as well as all foreign vessels and their related activities in waters under the jurisdiction of China.

The regulations have been coordinated with international marine laws to which China is a party, he said, and were drafted on the basis of China's environmental protection law promulgated in 1979. Consultations were held among government departments, legal and marine specialists and coastal provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities.

Further on Marine Law

OW200640 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese 1500 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Beijing, 19 Aug (XINHUA) -- Li Ximing, minister of urban and rural construction and environmental protection, today explained the "PRC Law on Marine Environmental Protection" (draft) to the 24th Session of the 5th NPC Standing Committee.

He pointed out: With 18,000 of coastline (exclusive of island coastlines), a vast sea area, numerous islands and a broad continental shelf, our country is abundant in marine organisms and aquatic, mineral, offshore energy and coastal tourist resources and has favorable shipping conditions. Developing, utilizing and protecting the marine environment and resources are important tasks in the socialist modernization drive.

He said: Our country's marine environment is now polluted and impaired to varying degrees, and environmental pollution is quite serious in some estuaries, harbors, inland seas and coastal areas. With the development of marine undertakings, the number of foreign ships entering our territorial waters and foreign companies engaged in petroleum prospecting and exploiting in waters under the jurisdiction of our country has increased with each passing day. It is therefore necessary to strengthen supervision and control over the discharge and dumping of pollutants by foreign ships, platforms and aircraft in order to safeguard the rights and interests of our country.

He said: The "Law on Marine Environmental Protection" (draft) mainly lays down legal rules for the prevention of sea pollution: 1) prevention of marine environmental impairment by seashore projects; 2) prevention of marine environmental pollution by offshore petroleum prospecting and exploiting; 3) prevention of marine environmental pollution by land-based pollutants; 4) prevention of marine environmental pollution by ships; 5) prevention of marine environmental pollution caused by the dumping of waste materials. In addition, in the chapter of legal responsibility, the law stipulates that its violators will be held responsible, both administratively and criminally, and required to pay compensation.

Li Ximing said: The Law on Marine Environmental Protection" will not only have binding force on all units and individuals of our country, but involve supervision and control over foreign vessels, offshore petroleum prospecting and exploiting and foreign enterprises' activities in waters under the jurisdiction of our country. In drafting the law, attention was therefore paid to coordinating with relevant international conventions and practices.

CSO: 5200/2114

CHILE

PINOCHET DISCUSSES LAW OF THE SEA ISSUES

PY201538 Santiago Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 2341 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Text] President Augusto Pinochet delivered a speech at the ceremony commemorating the 30th anniversary of the declaration of Santiago. He referred to the significance of the declaration and to the goals attained after it was signed.

The president said that Latin American countries, with their understanding of the scope and purpose of the 200-mile thesis, have opened the way toward the ultimate recognition of that thesis. The adoption of this line of thinking in Latin America was the basic component of what would later be referred to as Latin American law of the sea which took shape in the declaration issued in Lima and Montevideo in 1970. These declarations recognize the existence of a geographic and socioeconomic link between the sea, the earth and man, a concept implicitly included in the declaration of 1952.

President Pinochet then said that the third UN Law of the Sea conference will end this year and that it has standardized the exclusive 200-mile economic zone, in keeping with the fundamental aspects of the declaration of Santiago. The UN meeting has passed into international law what some people initially regarded as a bold juridical project.

After remarking that his legal concept has already been accepted by countries with sea coasts, President Augusto Pinochet addressed Rosa Markmann, widow of the last President Gabriel Gonzalez Videla, and paid tribute to the Chilean statesman of vision. During the ceremony, staged at Government House and attended by distinguished personalities, Pinochet also cited former Presidents Plaza from Ecuador, Bustamante from Peru and Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala from Colombia.

President Pinochet recalled the benefits that Chile and the above nations have derived from the 200-mile concept. He added that Chile was the first to enforce a 200-mile zone 35 years ago because at that time some of its resources were already being indiscriminately exploited, to the detriment of the population of coastal areas.

The president added that those countries which have no continental shelf but which might make use of large fishing resources in the open ocean, as in the Pacific, had to be protected on the basis of the principle of equality. He also pointed to the work that the Foreign Ministry has undertaken for the last 30 years on this matter.

He reiterated his remarks on the benefits derived from the 200-mile concept and said that the four nations together account for 10 percent of the world's fish catch.

In conclusion, he said that in the case of Chile, the fish catch exceeds 3 million tons, thus placing our country among the world's largest fishing powers.

CSO: 5200/2114

PERU

FOREIGN MINISTER ON LAW OF SEA, ANDEAN PACT

PY262322 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 18 Aug 82 p A-4

[Excerpts] Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella said yesterday that the "Santiago Declaration" which Peru, Chile and Ecuador signed 30 years ago constitutes the acceptance of the Law of the Sea and the implementation of the doctrine which postulates that coastal countries have sovereignty and jurisdiction over 200 miles of sea.

Arias Stella made these remarks at the end of a meeting between him and President Belaunde Terry with whom, he said, he had held a meaningful talk on the anniversary of the "declaration" which will be commemorated simultaneously by the signatories of the original document.

Concerning the reactivation of the Andean Pact, Arias Stella said that this organization is about to be relaunched. He reported that he had held a very interesting meeting with the new members of the Cartagena Accord Board with whom he discussed the steps that should be taken immediately to obtain better results.

Speaking about the authorization which the U.S. Congress granted to President Reagan to intervene in nations presumably threatened by communism, Arias Stella said that both President Belaunde and he have made categoric statements to the effect that Peru can under no circumstances support interventionist measures regardless of their source.

He added: "Peru is a pacifist nation that respects the principle of nonintervention. Therefore, any attempt at intervening by force in affairs of other nations goes against the spirit that guides Peruvian foreign policy."

CSO: 5200/2114

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

ILLEGALLY FISHING VESSEL FINED--Maputo--A South African fishing boat captain has been fined about R30 000 and his vessel confiscated by a maritime court in Maputo for fishing illegally in Mozambican territorial waters. Captain J. Smit was detained after his Durban-registered boat, the Plumstead, was towed into Maputo harbour on August 20. Captain Smit said bad weather had forced the Plumstead close to shore when the engine failed. He denied he was fishing while in Mozambican waters. But the court found the vessel's log, testimony from some of the 18 crew and weather reports contradicted the skipper's claims. Entries in the log were cited as evidence that the Plumstead had repeatedly fished in Mozambican waters off the Limpopo estuary before the engine breakdown which led to its seizure two weeks ago.
[Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 4 Sep 82 p 13]

CSO: 5200/5670

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ICELAND, FAEROES CAPELIN AGREEMENT--Yesterday at a meeting the Icelandic Government decided to enter into an agreement with the Faeroese Administration whereby the Faeroese will not catch the 10,000 tons of capelin that was to be allotted to them by the European Common Market prior to the Oslo Talks on Capelin Resources. The Faeroese, for their part, have agreed not to use their rights and are willing to enter into an agreement with an exchange of notes between the two countries. Prior to the Oslo Talks on a general ban on Capelin fishing until new reports of fisheries experts have been presented, the European Common Market gave the Faeroese rights to a 10,000 ton quota. The Common Market did not think it possible to revoke the rights formally but felt that the matter should be resolved by agreement between Iceland and the Faeroese. The agreement, which is considered to have been made today, is hopefully the last milestone along the path to a total agreement between the European Common Market, the Scandinavians and Iceland on a complete capelin ban until new reports of fisheries experts on the condition of the capelin banks have been presented. [Text] [Reykjavik MORBUNBLADID in Icelandic 11 Aug 82 p 26] 9857

CSO: 5200/2110

DENMARK

BRIEFS

EC CHARGE OF ILLEGAL FISHING--Karl Hjortnæs, minister of fisheries, intends to put into effect an immediate stop of the extensive industrial sprat fishing along large parts of the west coast of Jutland. That will presumably be done today. The reason for the imposition of the national ban is that entirely new Danish investigations indicate that the EC countries are right in their complaints about the fishing. The EC countries have been accusing the fishermen of camouflaged herring fishing. Fisheries Minister Karl Hjortnæs says that 58 percent of the catches consists of herring fry, and that it must now be confirmed that the fishing is illegal. Under the prevailing rules the industrial cutters must not take an incidental catch of herring amounting to more than 10 percent. In the new investigations there is also every indication that this strongly criticized fishing is to blame for the fact that the herring population of the North Sea has not increased. The herring taken by the industrial cutters are young fry of 5 to 8 centimeters, and the biologists' studies show that the herring stocks of the North Sea are recruited from the west coast of Jutland. [Text] [Copenhagen, Ib Christensen in BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 26 Aug 82 p 1] 8815

CSO: 5200/2116

DENMARK/GREENLAND

EC COMMISSION EXPECTED TO ENLARGE COD QUOTA OFF WEST COAST OF GREENLAND

Godthaab GRØNLANDSPOSTEN in Danish 11 Aug 82 p 39

[Text] [Commission] proposes a quota of 10,000 tons of cod for the FRG and a smaller quota for the United Kingdom.

Although both quotas and t.a.c. [expansion unknown] were put on the agenda at the last meeting of the fisheries council, which took place last week, they were quickly taken back off. An attempt will be made to come back to this at the next meeting of the council, which will take place 21-22 September.

Although there is thus still no joint fisheries policy at all and no quotas have been set for this year's fishing, up to now fishing has gone on under what is called a roll-over arrangement, which has meant that thus far the member countries have been able to fish in accordance with the proposals on quotas and t.a.c. that have been presented for consideration by the commission, provided they observe the other limits that exist.

New Transitional Arrangement

However, it was decided at last week's meeting to change this practice, so that the roll-over arrangement from 1 August until the next meeting of the council will be according to the fisheries pattern of the preceding year. This means that in the coming period fishing cannot be done according to the commission's quota proposal, but only according to the t.a.c. proposal, which the commission has enlarged as concerns the west coast of Greenland from 62,000 to 75,000 tons of cod, which Greenland can thus fish for until 21 September.

The decision of the council of ministers was made on British and French initiative, and for the time being it prohibits the West Germans from going to West Greenland and fishing up to the quota of 10,000 tons that the commission had intended to give them.

8815
CSO: 5200/2116

FRG STARTS FISHING OFF WEST GREENLAND WITHOUT EC DECISION

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 26 Aug 82 Sect III p 3

[Text] (RITZAUS BUREAU, DEUTSCHE PRESS-AGENTUR)--The cod war between Denmark and the FRG over the size of the West German fishermen's quotas for catches off West Greenland was intensified yesterday when the federal government in Bonn, without waiting for acceptance by Denmark, released the first installment of the EC's quota, 2,000 tons of fish, to West Germany.

According to Lothar Rühl, spokesman for the West German government, Denmark will be informed through diplomatic channels of the West German decision.

The EC has allotted the FRG a quota of 10,000 tons of fish off West Greenland.

But since the fishing season off West Greenland is already beginning in late August, the West German government decided to give Josef Ertl, minister for food, agriculture, and forestry, authority to release a part of the West German quota.

The government in Bonn is of the opinion that the FRG, according to the EC's rules, also has an incontestable right to a suitable part of the fishing off West Greenland, where the waters are at the same time the most important fishing grounds for the Greenlandic fishermen.

But the West German quotas for catches off East Greenland have caused no disagreement between Copenhagen and Bonn. On the other hand, at least two German fishing vessels have been captured by the Greenland government and fined 80,000 kroner for violations of the quota, it was reported Wednesday in Bremerhaven and Cuxhaven.

Bonn--Karl Hjortnæs, [Danish] minister of fisheries, in a statement to Danmarks Radio, called it entirely unacceptable that the West Germany is taking such a unilateral step. He has expressed this to his German colleague, Josef Ertl, and proposed that a meeting that had been set for 14 September be moved up to 27 August.

"For the time being we only know that the German minister of fisheries has gotten the German cabinet's permission for the issuance of licenses to fish off Greenland. I assume that the West Germans will not engage in such a unilateral action," says Karl Hjortnæs.

"Apparently the Germans are trying to separate the question of the fishing off West Greenland from the other fisheries questions we are discussing in the EC. And on the Danish side we find that completely unacceptable. These questions must be discussed in connection with the other questions and not in isolation," says Karl Hjortnæs.

"The EC commission has proposed that West Germany be given a quota off West Greenland. Such a proposal does not give permission to start up a fishery on that basis alone. It would be completely unreasonable that a proposal that has not been adopted or approved could suddenly give a legal basis for starting up a new fishery," the minister of fisheries says.

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CSO: 5200/2116

LYNX HELICOPTER EXPECTED TO AID FISHERIES

Godthaab GRØNLANDSPOSTEN in Danish 11 Aug 82 p 24

[Text] Service as a helicopter pilot on the Greenland Command's inspection ships has perhaps not become easier, but it is somewhat more satisfying now than before. The reason is the very simple one that the new Lynx helicopters are capable of doing a considerably better job than could be done with the old Alouettes, all of which have now been discarded by the fisheries inspection service.

GRØNLANDSPOSTEN's fisheries department has talked with 1st Lt Ole Bækgaard Petersen, who heads the helicopter group on the inspection vessel "Hvidbjørnen" and flies the new Lynx helicopter in his everyday work.

Actually it is possible to begin at one end and reel off the new helicopter's various advantages. In all cases it will be found that the equipment is better than was the case with the old ones.

Where the old Alouette could fly for 2 hours with a speed of a good 90 knots, the new Lynx has a maximum speed of 120 knots (ca. 200 km/hour). With the standard tanks it can fly for 3 hours, and an extra tank gives it another good hour of flying time.

This means that the area that the Lynx can fly over for a patrol is considerably greater than was the case with the Alouette.

A radar is a new instrument on the fishery inspection service's helicopters, and the same is true of the instruments that make it fit for flying in bad weather and at night.

"We get a lot of pleasure out of the radar on inspection missions, for we can see a trawler at a distance of about 25 miles on both sides of the helicopter," says Ole Bækgaard Petersen. [The Danish mile = 4.68 English miles; that would make about 120 English miles.--Translator]

The better flying qualities are also accompanied by better landing capabilities in bad weather. The whole safety system around the helicopter platform on the afterdeck of the inspection ships has been substantially improved, and a little gadget on the Lynx prevents it from being "thrown overboard" in landing.

For it can set the rotor blades in reverse, so that they press the helicopter down against the platform with a quite considerable weight. Even if the ship should heel over violently immediately after the helicopter landing, the helicopter is thus held unshakably and safely fast.

Advanced Direction-Finding Equipment

The helicopter's most important mission, of course, is the rescue service, and when human lives are at stake the Lynx is, in Ole Bækgaard's words, quite phenomenal.

Thus it is provided with radio equipment for all types of communications radios. Conversations can be carried on with the police and over the ordinary maritime VHF radio.

As a further refinement the helicopter's equipment can also get bearings on any sender at all. Thus if a conversation is being carried on with a disabled vessel on, e.g., VHF channel 16, it is possible to find the exact direction to the disabled vessel with the direction-finding apparatus.

Although the Lynx helicopter is new on the ships of the fisheries inspection service, it has stood its tests, and that applies both to inspection missions and to transporting patients.

Transports of patients have been carried out in Greenland, too, but by far the most of the missions of that type have been accomplished in the Faeroes, where the helicopter was first introduced.

"Time and again the fisheries inspection is the only possibility when accidents occur or there is a sudden serious illness on one of the outlying islands.

"We have already coped with many of these missions, and they have all gone off satisfactorily," says Ole Bækgaard Petersen.

Of course, human lives saved cannot be measured in money, but still it is of interest what the new helicopters cost: The price of this marvel is about 14 million kroner.

8815

CSO: 5200/2116

ICELAND

PAPER COMMENTS ON U.S. DECISION TO REJECT LOS TREATY

Reykjavik MORGUNBLADID in Icelandic 14 Jul 82 p 16

[Editorial: "Wrong U.S. Policy"]

[Text] Ronald Reagan, the U.S. president, announced before the weekend that his government will not sign the United Nations Law of the Sea Treaty this December. The agreement has been in the works for almost a decade in the UN Law of the Sea Conference. Taken as a guiding principle in drawing up the treaty was the idea that it be successful in as many areas as possible and set up in such a way that each country gains in one area for concessions it makes in another. This way there would be no disputes about carrying out the underlying agreement. This has not been the case. The United States naturally took part in the making of the agreement and in discussions about it. When Jimmy Carter was in the White House it appeared that the agreement would be made in good accord with the most powerful nations in the world. The position of the government in Washington changed after Ronald Reagan came to power. Now the United States will not be among those sanctioning the signed treaty. The treaty was, however, approved by a wide majority at the last working session of the Law of the Sea Conference last April in New York.

This decision of the United States is wrong. It is founded on shortsightedness and will result in disenchantment worldwide, particularly in Iceland. The position of the Reagan government shows that the financial power of the international concerns having interests in the mining of the Ocean bottom minerals has more influence upon policy making in Washington than the rational views of expert advisors who make their decisions based upon an appreciation of the total situation. Reagan supporters, however, point out that there are unsatisfactory clauses in the Law of the Sea Treaty on the division of the ocean bottom minerals outside the jurisdictions of the individual countries.

The Law of the Sea Treaty is, however, much more than that. The treaty is necessary to establish laws for the oceans. Without it there could be severe anarchy as during the "Cod War" and the participants thought that bad enough. There is no doubt that the United States would strengthen its position more by

signing the Law of the Sea Treaty than by renouncing it. The Icelandic government was, in its time, among the front ranks of those governments wishing the United Nations to exert itself to establish legal rules for the oceans. The Icelandic Government should now use its influence to bear to gain United States support of the outcome achieved at the UN Law of the Sea Conference.

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